

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

**Alteration Of Plant Meristem Function By Manipulation Of The Retinoblastoma-Like Plant
RRB Gene**

This invention provides methods and compositions for altering the growth, organization, and differentiation of plant tissues. The invention is based on the discovery that, in plants, genetically altering the levels of Retinoblastoma-related gene (RRB) activity produces dramatic effects on the growth, proliferation, organization, and differentiation of plant meristem.